

Calderon, Wanda

From: Mears, Mary
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2017 8:04 AM
To: Mugdan, Walter
Subject: RE: URGENT: ISSUE RAISED BY BRENDA IN CEPD - PEOPLE MAY BE DRINKING WATER FROM SOME OF OUR SF SITES

Hi Walter,

An update on this...

According to our Assistant PIO (Rusty from R9, he's terrific) in the REOC, Ops learned that site had a no action rod, as the VOCs dissipated after we listed the site in 2009. That said, he suggested (and I agree) that we include a general sentence in our news release saying that people should not tamper with closed wells or drink water from unknown wells that are not being tested and specifically used for drinking water.

Mary Mears
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From: Mugdan, Walter
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 5:49 PM
To: Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: URGENT: ISSUE RAISED BY BRENDA IN CEPD - PEOPLE MAY BE DRINKING WATER FROM SOME OF OUR SF SITES

Thanks; I've forwarded this to Eric Mosher and Shawna Hoppe as well.

From: Mears, Mary
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 5:33 PM
To: Acevedo, Janie <Acevedo.Janie@epa.gov>; Harris-Bishop, Rusty <Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov>; Seppi, Pat <Seppi.Pat@epa.gov>
Cc: Mugdan, Walter <Mugdan.Walter@epa.gov>; Guerrero, Carmen <guerrero.carmen@epa.gov>; Kluesner, Dave <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>
Subject: URGENT: ISSUE RAISED BY BRENDA IN CEPD - PEOPLE MAY BE DRINKING WATER FROM SOME OF OUR SF SITES
Importance: High

Janie and Rusty and Pat,

[Note to Janie and Rusty: Brenda does public affairs and community work for our Caribbean Environmental Protection Division] See her note below. I am cc:ing Walter for awareness.

Can one of you please report this to REOC Ops immediately? I don't know if the water from these wells poses a short-term risk, but I leave it to our experts to figure out how to stop people from drinking the water from these wells.

Media outreach and flyers may well be needed too, as Brenda notes, but I think the first step is to get Ops involved. They might be able to install some security at the sites, if appropriate.

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From: Reyes, Brenda
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 5:20 PM
To: Mears, Mary <Mears.Mary@epa.gov>; Kluesner, Dave <kluesner.dave@epa.gov>
Cc: Guerrero, Carmen <guerrero.carmen@epa.gov>
Subject: URGENT MEDIA COMMUNITY ISSUE

It came to our attention this afternoon that one of the teams assessing Superfund sites found out that residents tampered the well in Caguas Hormigas Superfund site and are using it to extract water. The winds took out all signs in this Superfund sites. Upon making a few phone calls we found that in the wells in Dorado Superfund site water was extracted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday and our CDM contractor confirmed that a resident of Maunabo had requested to use the water at the wells in the site.

Yesterday I had told CEPD Director that my most pressing concern was the use of water in the San Germán Superfund site where we have an unknown number of wells that were digged in 1975 after Hurricane Eloise, when residents were without water for many months. These Superfund sites have VOC's and are at different stages in the process.

I strongly suggest we make a media pitch on radio and print with CEPD director urging people no to tamper these wells or use that water, work to have signs up ASAP, make flyers that can be distributed house to house and within the communities and the neighborhoods. This is an URGENT matter.

Please contact Carmen and/or myself.

Brenda

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